HUMAN RIGHTS DEVELOPMENTS IN A WEEK

19 October - 25 October 2026



Human Rights are inherent to all human beings, regardless of the nationality, place of residence, sex, national or ethnic origin, color, religion, language or any other status without discrimination. These rights are all universal, inalienable, interrelated, interdependent and indivisible.

The articles shared in this brief are the liability of their respective news outlets and do not reflect the views of CLDH.



Monday 19
October 2026

Human Rights Watch Calls for Amendments to Media Law

Human Rights Watch called on Parliament on Monday, October 19th, to amend Lebanon's recently adopted media law and remove provisions that continue to restrict freedom of expression. A draft law introduced by ten MPs on October 5 would address the law's key problematic provisions.

The law ends pretrial detention for opinion offences committed through media or electronic platforms and introduces protections for journalists and their sources. However, Article 104(b) criminalizes the intentional fabrication of falsehoods and the dissemination of false and harmful news, with penalties of up to three years' imprisonment. Other defamation and insult offences remain in the Penal Code and Military Justice Code.

Report Finds Progress in Combating Human Trafficking, but Gaps in Victim Protection Persist

On Monday, October 19th, the National Human Rights Commission published an analysis comparing the 2025 and 2026 U.S. Trafficking in Persons Reports. Lebanon remained on Tier 2, with the report stating that the government reported 13 convictions of traffickers, increased referrals to protection services, and stronger oversight of domestic-worker recruitment agencies.

The report also found continuing risks of forced labour and the exploitation of children and domestic workers. Although the report described forced labour as the predominant form of trafficking, the government officially identified 12 victims during the reporting period: 10 adult women subjected to sex trafficking and two girls subjected to an unspecified form of trafficking. None of the 12 was explicitly identified as a victim of forced labour. Lebanon still lacked an approved national action plan and a formal inter-agency task force.

Environment Minister Calls for International Fund for Postwar Environmental Recovery

Environment Minister Tamara El Zein called for an international environmental emergency fund to finance postwar ecological recovery during the Leaders' Summit on Biodiversity in Yerevan, Armenia, where she represented Lebanon's president. She cited the deliberate targeting of forests, woodlands, and nature reserves in southern Lebanon during the 2023–2024 and 2026 wars. She stressed that environmental recovery must be an integral part of reconstruction and postwar recovery.

Gunfire, Shelling and Explosions Reported Across Southern Lebanon

Israeli forces opened machine-gun fire toward Wadi Beit Lif and the outskirts of Sarbin on Monday morning. Overnight fire and illumination flares were also reported over Zawtar al-Sharqiya.

Artillery later struck the outskirts of Mayfadoun and Hadatha, while Israeli forces carried out an explosi

Tuesday 20 October 2026

Airstrikes Target Kfar Tibnit, Nabatieh al-Fawqa and Qantara

Israeli warplanes struck Kfar Tibnit and Nabatieh al-Fawqa on Tuesday, October 20th. A further airstrike targeted Qantara in the Marjayoun district.

Earlier, warplanes were seen flying over Hermel and several villages in the northern Bekaa.

Wednesday 21 October 2026

Rights Groups Seek International Action on Lebanese Detainees

A delegation from the Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture and the Qana Human Rights Observatory asked Foreign Minister Youssef Raggi on Wednesday, October 21st, to raise the case of Lebanese detainees held in Israel before the UN Human Rights Council.

The groups submitted a memorandum and draft resolution for the Council's March 2027 session. They said around 38 Lebanese nationals were detained and 40 remained missing, and alleged that detainees had been subjected to torture and denied visits by the International Committee of the Red Cross. Raggi said the proposal would be examined and that any decision to proceed rested with the government.

Drone Strike and Demolition Blast Reported in Kfar Tibnit Area

An Israeli drone struck between Kfar Tibnit and Nabatieh al-Fawqa on Wednesday. Low-flying drones were reported over Beirut and its suburbs.

Israeli forces later carried out a large demolition blast in Kfar Tibnit, while another drone flew at low altitude over Tyre and surrounding towns.

Thursday 22 October 2026

Incursion, Shelling and Explosions Affect Several Southern Areas

An Israeli force of around 20 soldiers and four tanks advanced toward Naba al-Khoukh on the outskirts of Hebbariyeh on Thursday, October 22nd. The force opened machine-gun fire while conducting searches, as artillery fired six shells at the town's outskirts. Earlier shelling targeted Wadi Zibqin and the area between Beit Yahoun and Baraachit, and a drone dropped a stun grenade near a fishing boat off Amriyeh.

Israeli forces also carried out explosions in Bani Hayyan and Markaba. A drone exploded on the roof of a building in Mayfadoun, with no injuries reported.

A drone later struck Nabatieh al-Fawqa as artillery targeted the area between Zawtar al-Sharqiya and Mayfadoun and the outskirts of Kfar Tibnit. Another drone dropped explosive containers on homes in Bani Hayyan.

Friday 23 October 2026

Commission Reviews Progress and Gaps in Torture Prevention

The National Human Rights Commission published a review of torture prevention in Lebanon on Friday, October 23rd. It noted institutional and financial developments in 2026, including a larger budget, an official headquarters, steps to recruit legal researchers, an initiative to establish a roster of multidisciplinary experts, and a code of ethics.

The review said overcrowding, inadequate healthcare, barriers to legal assistance, delays in implementing release orders, and risks linked to isolation and insufficient supervision persisted in places of detention.It also cited difficulties in implementing Article 47 safeguards, locating some detainees, and ensuring the effective presence of juvenile protection representatives during initial questioning.

Airstrike, Artillery Fire and Explosion Reported in Southern Lebanon

Israeli warplanes struck the vicinity of Ali al-Taher hill on the outskirts of Nabatieh al-Fawqa on Friday. Artillery fire also targeted the outskirts of Baraachit and Beit Yahoun.

Earlier, a drone dropped a bomb on Khallat Zuhair near Kfar Shouba. Artillery targeted the area between Zawtar al-Sharqiya and Mayfadoun, while Israeli forces carried out a large overnight explosion between Zawtar al-Sharqiya and Kfar Tibnit and set fire to woodland in Qantara.

Low-flying drones were also reported over Tyre and its surroundings.

Saturday & Sunday 24 and 25 October 2026

Commission Submits Recommendations on Violence Against Girls

The National Human Rights Commission published a submission on violence against women and girls on Saturday, October 24. It identified child marriage, sexual violence, and technology-facilitated violence as priority concerns, including during conflict and displacement.

The Commission recommended setting the minimum marriage age at 18, without exceptions that undermine protection. It also called for safeguards in care and detention institutions, confidential reporting, stronger independent oversight and protections addressing online abuse without blaming or excluding affected girls.

Airstrikes and Artillery Target Several Areas on Saturday

Israeli warplanes struck Wadi al-Hujeir and Kfar Tibnit on Saturday, October 24th, with two strikes on Kfar Tibnit reported within less than 15 minutes.

Artillery later targeted Al-Arish between Hadatha and Haris, while warplanes conducted mock raids over villages in the western and central sectors and launched another strike on Wadi al-Hujeir. Israeli forces also carried out a large explosion in Kfar Tibnit.

Shelling, Gunfire and Drone Strike Continue on Sunday

Israeli artillery struck Baraachit, Mansouri, Majdal Zoun, Wadi al-Salouqi, Hadatha and the Marjayoun plain on Sunday, October 25th. A Merkava tank fired a shell inside Hadatha, while tanks and machine-gun fire were reported near Aita al-Jabal as residents harvested olives.

A drone also struck Kfar Tibnit with a guided missile. Artillery targeted the Baraachit Nature Reserve, low-flying drones were reported over Zahrani, and aircraft conducted mock raids over the northern border areas of Akkar and Hermel.

REPORTING A VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS TO CLDH

If you wish to report an incident that may potentially constitute a violation of human rights, kindly send an email to the following address: **violations@cldh-lebanon.org**

You can also report an incident anonymously through our **website**.
When making a report, please ensure to include the followinginformation:



WHERE:
City/village, governorate, additional details (e.g. which prison)



WHAT:
Nature of the violation



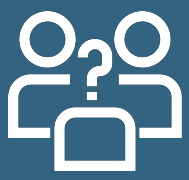
HOW:
A narrative description of what happened



WHEN:
Date of the episode (at least the year, if day and month are unknown)



TO WHOM:
Information regarding the victim (name, nationality, gender, date of birth, city of origin, phone number). Only share this information with the consent of the person.



WHO
is the person reporting (name, phone number) and how were they identified (e.g., victim him/herself, family member, eyewitness, journalist, humanitarian worker…)

The information referred will remain completely private. It will be fact-checked and registered into CLDH's internal system. No action will be undertaken without the explicit and written consent of the reporter.